Proposal for CSS for OBCs

1921. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the State Governments to formulate certain schemes for OBCs under 100 per cent and 50 per cent Centrally Sponsored Scheme;

(b) if so, the details therof;

(c) how many States have submitted such proposals and the action taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Kerala Government has submitted any such proposal; and

(e) if so, the action taken on such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) since 1998-99, the Government have been implementing the following Centrally Sponsored schemes for Other Backward Classes (OBCs). (i) Hostels for boys and girls with 50% central assistance towards construction cost; (ii) Pre-matric Scholarships for students, with 50 percent central assistance; and (iii) Post-matric Scholarships for students, with 100 percent central assistance. Central assistance under these schemes are released basing on the proposals received from the States. Details of State-wise funds released during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 under the schemes are enclosed in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) and (e) a proposal for releasing funds under the scheme for Post-matric Scholarships for OBC students has been received from the State Government Kerala during 1999-2000. The State Government has been requested to send relevant details in support of the proposal, which is still awaited.

No proposal regarding the Schemes for Pre-matric Scholarship for OBC student and Hostel for OBC boys and girls has been received from Kerala so far.

Statement

Details of State-wise amount sanctioned under the schemes of Pre matric Scholarships for OBC students, Post-matric Scholarships for OBC students and Hostel for OBC boys & girls during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 so far.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.N.	State/UT	Amount released					
		Pre-matric Scholarships to OBC students		Post-matric Scholarships to OBC students		Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	325.00	116.00	217.00	—	144.26
2.	Bihar	84.60	—	196.50	—	120.53	—
3.	Madhya Pradesh	64.00	—	149.00	—	10.00	—
4.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	78.26
5.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	57.48
6.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	20.00
7.	Tripura	1.40	100.00	3.00	3.00	—	—
	TOTAL:	**150.00**	**425.00**	**464.50**	**220.00**	**130.53**	**300.00**

Plight of Vrindavan and Varanasi Widows

1922. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state the action taken to assist widows residing in Vrindavan and Varanasi who are deprived of human rights and are on the verge of hunger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): According to the information furnished by the Department of Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, who are concerned with this subject matter, they have set up a Committee under the Chairpersonship of Minister of State for Women & Child Development to co-ordinate the efforts of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal Governments and Central Government organizations for rehabilitation of the marginalized women of Vrindavan and to monitor flow of benefits of Central Schemes to the target group. Besides, there are various Central Government Schemes for self employment for women such as Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generating Units for Women (NORAD), Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP), Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), Condensed Courses